

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1967

WITH THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND THE ENGINEER & SURVEYOR ATTACHED.

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#### DEPWADE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

# THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

#### FOR THE YEAR 1967

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1967.

The Rural District of Depwade covers 79,742 acres and had an estimated mid-year population of 18,090, an annual increase of 240 persons.

As far as can be judged by the notifications of infectious diseases and deaths for children under 15 years of age, this section of the population continued to enjoy extremely good health. There were no epidemics and the only disease notified in any number was measles. It should be emphasised however that by no means all cases which occur are notified. A vaccine against measles will be in use in 1968 and it is believed that this will go some way to curtailing the incidence in the future.

Five deaths occurred in children under 15 years of age, but three of these died in the first week of life. One other child died of a motor vehicle accident under 5 years of age, and one of congenital malformation under 14 years of age. The infant deaths were the total number under one year of age out of 272 live births.

There were no deaths in the 15 to 34 age groups, but thereafter the number of deaths in each age group rose steadily. If the causes of these deaths are analysed disease of the heart and/or blood vessels is the greatest culprit and not only in the oldest age groups - 9 victims being claimed under 55 years of age. Many more may have suffered from chronic disability who did not actually die during this period.

Special emphasis is made of this point because many people must now be well aware, due to publicity in the press and on the radio, that much of this disease of the heart and blood vessels, especially the main culprit, coronary thrombosis, is largely preventable, yet 65 deaths from coronary artery disease occurred in 1967, compared with 50 in 1966. Prevention requires some adjustment in the way of life of most people over 35 years of age. Very few are prepared to make this adjustment at present as it requires a certain degree of self discipline in the form of controlling diet and exercise. However, this would undoubtedly not only prevent some deaths but would assist many to live a more vigorous and happy life in old age.

Health education on a more individual and personal approach is required than is at present achieved by the media of print and radio. Much could be done in this respect by an enthusiastic health education committee who have done little more than hold a watching brief throughout the year. It is sad that discouragement, if not active opposition, has been shown towards the concept of health education at the District level. Some believe that the visible achievements of such activities are so small that any expense involved is a waste of money. No effort towards increasing human happiness and health was ever that, even though the effort may fall largely on stony ground for some time to come.

The other main killing disease - cancer - still attacks the lungs more frequently than any other organ in the body. Cigarette smoking has been shown without doubt to be the main cause for this, and yet consumption still rises!

Only one death occurred on the roads of Depwade in 1967 and that was a pedestrian, but 166 other people were injured, 74 of them severely. It is surprising that so few car manufacturers have so far considered incorporating safety devices to be worth while - even if only as a selling factor.

Other accidents causing death mainly involved the elderly, 7 of the 8 being in persons over 75 years of age, but accidents in the home causing injury are still a preventable cause of disability as a visit to the surgical wards of any children's hospital will testify.

One other point which I believe deserves attention as a preventable cause of much mental, if not physical distress; there were 16 illegitimate live births in 1967 compared with 15 in 1966 in Depwade. The sum total of what this means to the lives of 32 people makes a dimunition of the problem in coming years an urgent necessity, which is the responsibility of all concerned in public health.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient servant

R.D. Harland

Local Health Office,
Aspland Road,
Norwich,
NOR 195.

### DEPWADE RURAL DISTRICT - 1967

Table 1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) Estimated Resident Population	79,742 18,090
Rateable Value	£418,692
Sum Produced by a Penny Rate	€1,680

Table 2. LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate	135 7	121 9	256 16
Totals	142	130	272

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Resident Population - 15.0

Table 3. STILL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate	2	1 -	3 -
Totals	2	1	3

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of Total Births - 11.0

Table 4. TOTAL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Live	142	130	272
Still	2	1	3

Table 5. INFANT DEATHS
(a) Infant Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 year)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate	1 -	2 <b>-</b>	3
Totals	1	2	3

Infant Mortality Rates:

Total - 11.0 (per 1,000 live births)
Legitimate - 11.7 (per 1,000 legitimate births)
Illegitimate - 0.0 (per 1,000 illegitimate births)

(b) Neo-Natal Mortality (Deaths of Infants during the first four weeks)

	Males	Pemales	Total
Legitimate	1 -	2	3
Illegitimate		<del>-</del>	-

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) - 11.0

(c) Early Neo-Natal Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 week)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate	1 -	2 _	3

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) - 11.0

(d) Perinatal Mortality (Still births and deaths under 1 week)

,	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate	3 -	3 -	6

Perinatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) - 21.8

# Table 6. ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

Males - 7 Females - 9 Total - 16 (5.9% of total live births)

Table 7. MATERNAL DEATHS (Including abortion) - Nil Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) - 0.0

Table 8. DEATHS (All ages)

Males	Females	Total
122	140	262

Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 of Estimated Resident P.pulation) - 14.5

Table 9. CAUSE OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

Cause	Males	Females	Total
Atel ctasis	1	1	2
Prematurity	-	1	1
Totals	1	2	3

Table 10. NOTIFICATIONS OF DEATHS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR (According to Age Groups)

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	1	2	3
l and under 5	1	-	1
5 " " 15	1	_	1
15 " " 25	-	_	-
25 " " 35	-	-	-
35 '' '' 45	3	1	4
45 " " 55	5	6	10
55 " " 65	13	15	35
65 " " 75	41	30	71
75 and over	57	86	143
Totals	122	140	262

Table 11. CAUSE OF TOTAL DEATHS (Registrar General)

a time a state of the state of	Cause	Males	Females	Total
2.	Tuberculosis, other	_	1	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	4	6
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	4	9
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	<del>-</del>	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	14	25
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	-	1
16.	Diabetes	-	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	24	41
18.	Coronary disease, angina	. 36	29	65
19.	Hypertension ith heart disease	1	1	2
20.	Other heart disease	11	14	25
21.	Other circulatory disease	7	13	20
23.	Pneumonia	9	10	19
24.	Bronchitis	2	3	5
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	. 1	-	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3
31.	Congenital malformations	1		1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	9	15
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	1.		1
34.	All other accidents	2	6	8
35•	Suicide	3	2	5
	Totals	122	140	262

Table 12. SUMMARY OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR 1967

Live Births (per 1,000 pop.) Depwade R.D. Area 5. England & Wales (provisional)	(272) 15.0 16.3 17.2
Still Births (per 1,000 total births) Depwade R.D. Area 5. England & Wales (provisional)	(3) 11.0 9.4 14.8
Crude Deaths (per 1,000 pop.) Depwade R.D. Area 5 England & Wales (provisional)	(262) 14.5 12.5 11.2
Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births) Depwade R.D. Area 5. England & Wales (provisional)	(3) 11.0 14.6 18.3

- NOTE: 1. Figures in brackets are the actual numbers for Depwade R.D.
  - 2. Area 5 comprises Depwade, Forehoe & Henstead and Loddon R.D.'s and Diss & Wymondham U.D.'s.

Table 13. DEATHS DUE TO CANCER - Depwade R.D.

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Number of deaths	36	35	30	36	32	55	46
Percentage of total deaths	14•3	16.6	12.8	15.2	11.9	22 <b>.</b> 0	17.6

Table 14. CANCER DEATHS DURING LAST FIVE YEARS - Depwade R.D.

Year		 Nale			Female		
	Total Deaths	Total Cancer Deaths	Cancer of Lung	Total Deaths	Total Cancer Deaths	Cancer of Lung	
1967 1966 1965 1864 1963	122 143 129 115 109	19 34 14 18 13	5 9 7 9 2	140 107 141 122 125	27 19 18 18	4 3 1 1	
Totals	618	98	32	635	99	10	

Table 15. NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(According to Age Groups - Depwade R.D.)

	Under 1	1-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.	0ver 25	Total
Scarlet Fever Measles Whooping Cough Pneumonia Erysipelas Food Poisoning Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	3 47 4 - -	8 51 2 2 - -	2	- - 5 1 1	11 102 6 7 1 1
Totals	2	54	63	2	8	129

Table 16. NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING LAST FIVE YEARS - Depwade R.D.

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Scarlet Fever Measles Whooping Cough Pneumonia Infective Jaundice Erysipelas Dysentery (Sonne) Food Poisoning Ophthalmia Neonatorum Pulmonary Tuberculosis Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5 291 5 7 - 1 - 2 1 2	6 236 18 5 2 1 - - 2	7 46 23 6 2 2 - 5 - 2	8 156 14 6 3 1 4 1  2	11 102 6 7 - 1 - 1
Totals	315	270	95	196	129

Table 17. VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX
Vaccination of children (under five years of age)
during the year resident in the District and Area 5,
are shown in the following table.

	Depwade R.D.	Area 5
Number of live births registered	272	1,164
Number of vaccinations recorded (0-4 years)	187	753
Percentage Vaccinated	69	65

### Table 18. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following is the number of primary immunisations and booster injections given during the year in respect of Area 5.

PRIMARY				BOOSTERS		
Under 1	Age 1-4	Age 5 <b>-</b> 14	Total	Age 1-4	Age 5 <b>-</b> 15	Total
478	591	42	1,111	603	1,155	1,758

### Table 19. VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

The following is the number of primary immunisations and boosters given in Area 5 during the year.

PRIMA	\RY	BOOSTERS		
0 - 3 yrs.	4 - 14 yrs.	0 <b>-</b> 3 yrs.	4 - 14 yrs.	
1,034	74	137	853	

### Table 20. IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH

The following is the number of whooping cough immunisations recorded in Area 5 during the year.

	BOOSTERS			
Under 1	Age 1-4	Age 5-14	Total	Under 5
475	584	4	1063	724

### Table 21. IMMUNISATION AGAINST TETANUS

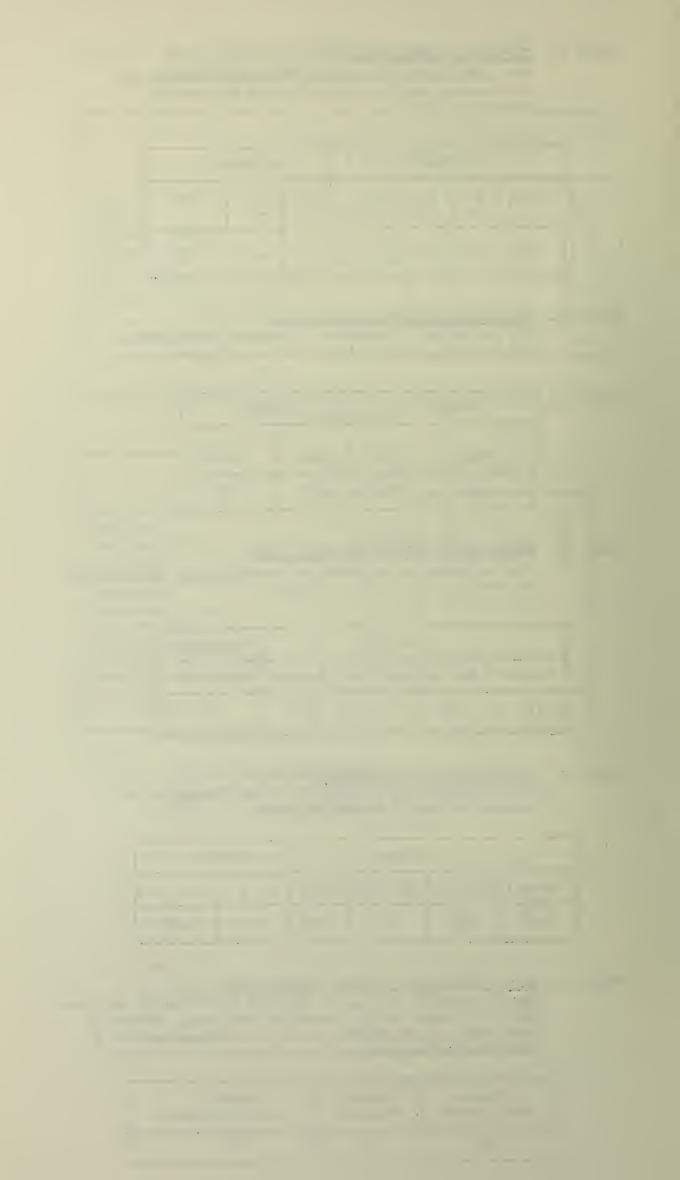
The following is the number of tetanus immunisations recorded in Area 5 during the year.

-			BOOSTE	RS			
	Under 1	Age 1-4	Age 5-14	Total	Age 1-4	Age 5-1	.4
	478	606	108	1192	612	1678	

### Table 22. B.C.G. VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

This is given at the age of 13 years to all school children who do not react to the tuberculin skin test. Number of skin tests and subsequent B.C.G. vaccinations in Area 5 last year is recorded.

Number	Number	Number
Skin Tested	Posicive	B.C.G. Vaccinated
930	89	787



# DEPWADE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR 1967.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the work carried out by my Department during the year ending December 31st 1967, and information on the environmental health conditions existing in the District on that date.

The report follows the same pattern as previous reports and contains all information required by Ministry of Health Circular No.1/68.

# PART I - GENERAL

### (a) Staff.

Without doubt 1967 was, from a staffing point of view, the most difficult one the Department has ever experienced. At the end of April Mr.C.R.Howes, the second additional Public Health Inspector, left to take another appointment; repeated advertisements failed to find a replacement until Mr. L.S.Brace from Luton was appointed in September. Mr. R.Close, the general clerk mainly engaged on planning administrative work, left to take another post nearer his home at the end of May, and was not replaced until Mr. C.J.Bardwell, previously employed by Norwich County Borough Council, was appointed late in July. Miss P.A.Hogg, shorthand typist/clerk, left in mid-July, to take another post nearer her future home, and was not satisfactorily replaced until Mrs.B.J.Hunt from Weybread was appointed in mid-November. Another appointment was made in August but the young lady concerned proved unsuitable and left of her own free-will after two weeks. During the interim period we were fortunate in having the part-time assistance of Mrs.B.Butler, who had previously worked in the Department. One other staff change was the appointment of Mr. G.W.Hewett, as Building Inspector, early in July - an essential addition to the staff to relieve the Public Health Inspectors of the majority of the building control supervisory work.

In spite of these difficulties, which unfortunately were added to by some sickness and annual leave, I am pleased to report that the working of the Department did not suffer to any great extent, which I think will be self-evident in the contents of this report. For this I am particularly grateful to the continued good work and support I receive from my Senior Assistant, Mr. D.E.Coldham. Further, all four new appointments have proved most satisfactory staff members and by the end of the year had blended into an excellent team.

### (b) New Legislation.

Two new statutes affecting the working of the Department were passed in 1967:-

Civic Amenities Act 1967 - Part III of which makes provision for the 'orderly disposal of disused vehicles, equipment and other refuse' upon which I reported in detail at the September meeting of the Public Health Committee; and

Slaughter of Poultry Act 1967 - which provides for the humane slaughter of poultry intended for human consumption; the date of operation of this Act is yet to be fixed by statutory order.

Circulars and statutory instruments affecting our work were issued on the following subjects:-

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food - Milk and dairies, Imported meat, Food (control of irradiation), Slaughter of poultry.

Ministry of Housing & Local Government - Building Regulations, Town and Country Planning Acts, Clean Air Act, Housing - slum clearance, Gypsies and other travellers, Civic Amenities Act, Refuse Removal, Refuse Collection and Industrial noise.

### (c) General Working of the Department.

The following table indicates how the various duties of the Department take up the Public Health Inspectors' time. Once again I must point out that the number of visits made does not necessarily give a true picture of time taken, but as this is the only yardstick available I feel that the figures are worth recording to give some idea of whether all aspects of our work are receiving suitable proportionate attention. The figures in brackets are those corresponding for the previous year.

8.6 (7.7) 18.1 (16.5)	
18.1 (16.5)	
11.5 (10.3)	
4.7 (6.3)	
3.9 (3.2)	
7.4 (6.6)	
45.8 (49.4)	
	11.5 (10.3) 4.7 (6.3) 3.9 (3.2) 7.4 (6.6)

- Notes:-\* This figure includes 145 visits to slaughterhouses for meat inspection by the private veterinary officers 34 more than in 1966, due to staff shortage.
  - \*\* In addition to this figure, the Building Inspector also carried out 1,743 inspections between July and the end of the year.

The total number of visits shows an overall drop on the 1966 figure of 729 (8.0%), but considering that we were without one inspector for a third of the year, I do not consider this reduction unduly high. For all that the only individual figure that shows a marked reduction is that for 'public cleansing' which I deplore, as continued efficiency in this service depends on regular and proper control, but it is pleasing to note that routine inspections of food premises, shops, factories, etc. do in fact show a slight increase.

#### PART II - HOUSING

#### (a) General.

On April 1st 1967, the Valuation List showed the total number of separate dwellings in the District to be 6,657 - 202 more than at the same time the previous year. The Registrar General's mid-year population estimate was 18,090 - an increase of 240 from the previous year. Based on these figures, the average occupation index (persons per dwelling) for 1967 was 2.717 (compared with 2.765 for 1966).

# (b) New Housing.

During the year a total of 231 new dwellings were erected - 191 by private enterprise and 40 by the Council. This is 10 more than in 1966, and the highest number yet recorded in one year.

The following table shows how the 191 private dwellings sub-divide into types and the number of bedrooms provided in the various types:-

Type of dwellings	Nı	Total			
Type of awellings	One	Two	Three	Four	10041
Traditional two storey houses	_	1	10	4	15
Chalet type	-	-	28	2	30
Traditional bungalows	1	27	107	4	139
Bricked/tiled prefab. bungalows.	-	2	4	-	6
Stable conversion to flat.	1	-	-	-	1

# (c) Slum Clearance - Action under Housing Act 1957 on Unfit Dwellings.

Another 44 dwellings were represented to the Public Health Committee as unfit and beyond economic reconditioning; following their inspection by the appointed Sub-Committee, action taken thereon (with 11 brought forward from 1966) was as follows:-

(i)	Demolition Orders made	• • •	12
(ii)	Undertakings accepted not to relet vacant dwellings, or to repair		
	within agreed time	• • •	11
(iii)	Closing Orders made	• • •	4
(iv)	Deferred for consideration at a later stage of slum clearance		
	programme	• • •	9
(v)	Carried forward for action in 1968	•••	19
	Total	•••	55

In addition two demolition orders were made and one undertaking accepted in respect of unfit dwellings previously deferred for later consideration.

Five statutory undertakings were cancelled and two demolition orders revoked following the execution of reconditioning works to bring the dwellings up to a satisfactory standard.

22 unfit dwellings were demolished during the year (3 without formal action having had to be taken).

The following table shows the position with regard to unfit dwellings subject to statutory orders etc., still standing in the District at the end of the year:-

		Dem Ord	olition ers	Closing Orders		Undertakings		ertakings Tot	
Number occupied	• • • • • •	69	(77)	11	(12)	9	(9)	89	(98)
Number vacant	• • • • • •	91	(84)	18	(18)	85	(79)	194	(181)
Totals	••••	160	(161)	29	(30)	94	(88)	283	(279)

The figures in brackets are those corresponding for 1966.

With the number of statutory orders etc. made each year roughly corresponding with the number of dwellings demolished or made fit, it is inevitable that these figures will remain fairly constant, but it is again possible to point out that the number of occupied 'condemned' dwellings shows a marked decrease. There is an increasing tendency for these dwellings to be offered for sale when they are vacated and although they usually cost far more than is considered economic to recondition, where suitable this is encouraged as an old cottage saved is as good as a new one erected. Further, every old cottage of character that is demolished can never be replaced.

Apart from the repair and reconditioning of dwellings in connection with Improvement Grants (see Section (d) of this Part) action for the repair of existing dwellings has again been confined to cases where tenants make complaint. Eight informal requests were sent to owners for essential repairs to be carried out, and except in two cases all were complied with or in hand at the end of the year. In the other two outstanding, authority was given for statutory action under Section 93 of the Public Health Act 1936, and notices served in 1968.

# (d) Improvement Grants.

The number of grants approved during the year was 96 (nine fewer than in 1966) which confirms the view I expressed last year that the peak of this work has been passed. However, the applications are received in a fairly steady stream throughout the year, and, as is indicated in the following table, the majority are in respect of dwellings occupied by the owners:-

Type of dwelling improved		Discretionary	Grants.	Standard	Grants.
Private dwellings - owner-occupie	ed	16	53%	40	61%
Private dwellings - rented	• • • •	5	17%	10	15%
Farm-houses	• • • •	. 4	13%	11	17%
Tied agricultural dwellings	• • • •	5	17%	5	7%
Totals approved 1967	••••	30		66	

Because of the rather scattered displacement of the older dwellings in this District, it has not been found practicable to make any recommendation to the Council for use of statutory powers for declaration of improvement areas, but every opportunity is taken to bring the scope of improvement grants to the attention of owners and would-be owners of suitable old dwellings and I think our record in this aspect of housing is ample evidence of the success of this policy.

(i) <u>Discretionary Grants</u>. 32 new applications were received, and with 3 brought forward from 1966, 30 were approved and 5 left over to be dealt with in 1968.

The 30 grants approved were for a total amount of £9,846 - averaging £328.4s. per grant (£34.5s. lower than the 1966 average). In one case the grant was towards the provision of a new unit of accommodation - conversion of a barn. The total number of these grants approved up to the end of 1967 was 654, to a total value of £170,990.

(ii) Standard Grants. 75 new applications were received, 66 approved and 2 refused as the work was commenced before a decision notice was issued. The remaining 7 applications were withdrawn - 4 being replaced by Discretionary Grants and one by an earth-closet conversion grant. The 66 approved applications covered the installation of the following amenities:-

Baths.	Wash-basins.	W.C.s.	Hot water supplies.	Food stores.
54	56	64	60	22

4 of the Standard Grants approved were in respect of dwellings with a limited life, to be brought up to the 'reduced standard'.

63 Standard Grants were certified for payment to a total value of £10,573.16.10d. averaging £167.16.9d. per grant. This is just over £30 higher than the average grant paid in 1966, and the most likely reason for this is that, with the inevitable time lag between approval and payment of this type of grant, we are only now paying the increased amounts of grant first allowed for in 1964. The total number of Standard Grants paid up to the end of 1967 was 463, to a total value of £60,120. Two of these grants were repaid during the year - grant conditions having been broken.

### (e) Overcrowding.

Three new cases of overcrowding came to our notice during the year - one statutory standard and two 'bedroom' standard, and as none of those previously registered were abated, the position at the end of the year was as follows:-

						No. at 31.12.66	Added 1967	Abated 1967	No. at 31.12.67
(i)	_	overcrowded standard		•••	•••	4	1	<b>-</b>	5
(ii)	Dwellings 'bedroom'	overcrowded standard	on	• • •	•••	3	2	_	5

Once again, I feel obliged to point out that whilst we have several various sources of information as well as our own investigations, it is possible that there are other overcrowded dwellings in the District, but if there are, the number must be very small, and so this aspect of housing cannot be regarded as a very serious problem in the District.

# (f) Cleanliness of Dwellings.

During the year only 4 visits were called for to inspect dwellings for cleanliness; in one case conditions were not found bad enough to justify any action. In the second case, it was found that although not perfect the conditions were more due to the untidy hoarding of rubbish than actual dirt, but one of the occupants was found to be dirty. However, the general conditions were considerably improved as a result of my visit and there was no call for further action. The other two visits were to a timber 'poultry house' which had been used for living purposes by a middle-aged widow, and

which was found to be indescribably filthy and verminous, seriously littered with refuse, and mice infested. With the co-operation of a relative we treated for fleas and mice, and removed all the refuse (at their expense) and the previous occupier subsequently took occupation of a reconditioned cottage nearby.

I think it is fair to say that generally the occupiers of dwellings in the District maintain their homes in a clean and tidy condition; when conditions as described above are found there is usually an acceptable explanation - generally mental disturbance in some form or another.

### (g) Moveable Dwellings - Caravans.

At the end of 1966 there were 62 caravans on individual sites throughout the District in residential use. During the year 23 were removed or ceased to be lived in, but another 21 were licensed and brought into use, leaving 60 in use at the end of the year. Of these, 22 are occupied by single persons, for whom I regard a caravan as quite suitable; 14 are occupied by young couples pending their being able to obtain satisfactory permanent accommodation; 9 are occupied on building plots pending the erection of new dwellings, and the remaining 15 are occupied by persons who apparently choose to live in a caravan and regard it as a satisfactory means of housing. All the sites are regularly visited or kept under observation, and only once during the year was it found necessary to write to a licensee drawing attention to a breach of conditions. In two cases in which Planning approval was refused in respect of land used as a residential caravan site, authority was given for statutory action under Section 1 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 (use of site without a licence) and both cases were still outstanding at the end of the year.

The two holiday caravan sites at Wortwell continued in use, and regular visits thereto confirmed their satisfactory conduct and maintenance as previously.

# (h) Common Lodging Houses.

To conform to the requirements of the Ministry Circular, I must again record that there are none of these premises in the District; nor, to my knowledge, are there any dwellings in multiple occupation.

# PART III - W A T E R S U P P L I E S.

#### (a) Mains Supplies.

During the year 84 samples were taken from the Council's mains supplies and submitted for bacteriological examination. 56 of these were taken as a matter of routine check of existing supplies and all but one reported as satisfactory. The only unsatisfactory sample was taken from an empty Council house at Winfarthing, and assumed to be due to a 'dirty' tap, as subsequent samples taken from the same tap after sterilising and adjacent dwellings proved quite satisfactory.

28 other samples were taken as a precautionary measure from new mains supplies before permitting the water to be used, and only two not found to be up to standard. In both cases good results were obtained after further sterilising of the mains concerned.

Note: For full information regarding the operation of the Council's water undertaking during the year, see the report of the Engineer and Surveyor.

### (b) Private Supplies.

9 samples were taken from private sources of water supply (6 shallow wells); 5 of the wells gave unsatisfactory results (one also on resampling), but two subsequently gave good results after treatment of the wells. In the three cases outstanding at the end of the year, the users were given the usual advice to boil the water before drinking, and measures were in hand to improve the existing supplies or to provide satisfactory alternatives.

### (a) Meat Inspection.

The same five licensed slaughterhouses continued in use throughout the year; once again the largest throughput was at the two wholesalers' premises at Earsham and Carleton Rode, which take up the
majority of the meat inspection time. All five premises were found
to be maintained and conducted in a satisfactory manner and nothing
that required more than informal verbal requests to rectify was
observed. Slaughtering times - apart from busy periods such as
mid-December - were kept to those agreed with the operators and overtime on meat inspection kept down to a minimum. Difficulties arose
through staff shortage during the summer and I should like to place
on record my thanks and appreciation for the additional assistance
received from the two private firms of veterinary surgeons who undertook duties extra to their normal week-end work.

The following table gives the number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year; also the number affected with disease or abnormalities with percentages in each group.

	Cattle ex. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & lamb	Pigs	Total
Number killed	1700	472	1531	2000	22543	28246
Number inspected (Percentage)	1700 100%	472 100%	1531 100%	2000 100%	22543 100%	28246 100%
All diseases except Whole carcasses	Tuberculos	is and Cys	ticerci 26	<u>-</u>	44	80
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	240	148	7	19	1302	1716
Percentage of number inspected affected	14.1	33.5	2.2	0.9	6.0	6.4
Tuberculosis only Whole carcasses	-	-	-	-	1	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	_	-	-	-	272	272
Percentage of number inspected affected	_	-	_	-	1.2	1.0
Cysticerci Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	_	_	-	-	9
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	_	-	<u>-</u>	9
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	_	_	_	-

Note: No horses were slaughtered.

The total number of animals slaughtered is again up on the previous year - by 1136 (4%) - and is another record high figure. The number of cattle was down, but calves, sheep and pigs all showed a small increase. The incidence of disease (other than tuberculosis) is slightly up, due, I think mainly to a higher proportion of septic infections, probably caused by the indiscriminate use of antibiotics in feed-stuffs; food animals do not appear to have the same resistance to septic infections that they had before this additive was first used. Tuberculosis was again only found in pigs, the incidence being slightly down again on the previous year, but it will be noted that one pig was found to be affected by generalised T.B. - the first one detected for several years. Cysticercus Bovis was only detected in two steers - in both cases the seat of infection was one cheek muscle, and the carcasses passed for consumption after refrigeration treatment in the prescribed manner.

The number of whole carcasses condemned is precisely the same as in 1966, and therefore shows a slightly lower percentage of all animals slaughtered. A high proportion of these are casualties and this figure does not reflect on the general good quality of meat produced at our slaughterhouses. Details of these 80 carcasses with the causes for condemnation are as follows:-

3 cows	• • •	moribund	10 pigs	• • •	moribund
2 cows		Johne's disease	8 pigs	• • •	pyaemia
l cow	• • •	fevered	8 pigs	• • •	septicaemia
l cow	• • •	pyaemia	4 pigs	• • •	septic peritonitis
l cow	• • •	septic peritonitis	4 pigs		acute erysipelas
l cow	• • •	oedema	2 pigs	• • •	septic pneumonia
l cow		septicaemia	l pig	• • •	septic arthritis
8 calves	• • •	immature	l pig	• • •	septic pericarditis
6 calves	• • •	fevered	l pig	• • •	toxaemia
4 calves		umbilical pyaemia	l pig		poorness/emaciation
2 calves	• • •	septic peritonitis	l pig	• • •	fevered
3 calves	• • •	moribund	l pig	• • •	generalised arthritis
l calf	• • •	septic omphalophlebitis	l pig	• • •	immature
l calf	• • •	septic pneumonia	l pig		jaundice
l calf	• • •	purulent nephritis			

The total estimated weight of meat and offals condemned as unfit for human consumption was 11 tons 3 cwts - about 1½ tons less than in 1966. This is all stained in the recommended manner and removed for processing by approved private firms.

The Council's income from meat inspection charges during 1967 was £1224.10.3d. - an increase of £15.3.9. over the previous highest in 1966.

### Slaughter of Animals Act - Slaughterman's Licences.

27 licences were issued to persons employed in the various slaughter-houses to act as slaughtermen; this is an increase of 4 over the previous year. One of the new licences was to a young person new to the work and his licence was made provisional in the first instance - permitting him only to act in the presence of a fully licensed slaughterman. No cases came to notice during the year of slaughtermen acting contrary to the slaughtering requirements of the Hygiene or Prevention of Cruelty Regulations.

### (b) Inspection of Other Foods.

In contrast with our experience of the previous few years, 1967 was a singular year regarding unfit food found in shops or subject to complaints from members of the public. Four such cases arose, two of which resulted in legal proceedings and two were dealt with by warning letters. Brief details are as follows:-

- (i) A member of the public purchased faggots from a butcher's shop in Harleston which he found to be mouldy when he opened them at home. Upon receipt of the complaint an inspection was made at the shop and more faggots in the same condition were found on display for sale. The firm concerned was prosecuted and fined a total of £40 with £21.17.6. costs.
- (ii) A housewife found the body of a blow-fly in a cooked sausage when it was cut open on a child's plate at meal-time. After investigation, it was agreed that the butcher who supplied the sausage should be prosecuted, but the magistrates held that it had not 'quite been proved' that the blow-fly was in the sausage when sold, and dismissed the case.
- (iii) A resident outside the District purchased a cornish pasty at a Harleston shop, which he subsequently found to have mould on the contents. After a thorough investigation of the circumstances of manufacture, delivery and shop sale in this case, it was agreed that negligence on the part of the makers or shop-keeper would be extremely difficult to prove in law, and that written warnings to both should be sent.
- (iv) Complaint was received from another Norfolk R.D.Council that their Inspector had been called in to inspect a cooked chicken, which he had condemned owing to its decomposing condition. The chicken had originated from poultry preparing premises at Wortwell, where it was found that although clean the conditions and equipment available were unsuitable for preparing cooked food, and the person concerned agreed to stop the practice forthwith. With this consideration, it was agreed that a warning letter as to his future activities in the food trade would meet the case.

However, in spite of these four cases, I think it only fair to state that from our routine inspections of food premises it is apparent that the general standard of food processed and sold in the District is good, and that it is handled and displayed for sale in a proper, sensible manner. In only 9 instances were Inspectors called in to inspect food suspected of being unfit, resulting in the following items being condemned for the reasons shown:-

40 lbs. of plaice fillets - stale and decomposed.

9 lbs. of saveloy sausages - mouldy and decomposed.

6 faggots (1½ lbs.) - mouldy and decomposed.
3 - 6 lb. tins cherry pie filling - decomposed (blown tins)
2 - 12 lb. tins cooked ham - decomposed (blown tins)
1 - 6 lb. tin of ox tongue - decomposed (blown tin)

1 - 7 lb. tin mandarin oranges - decomposed (damaged tin).

1 - 2/2 lb. tin of apricot halves - metallic contamination (blown tin).

# (c) Food Premises.

The following table gives the number of the various types of food handling premises (other than slaughterhouses and dairies) in use at the end of 1967 (with comparable figures for the previous year in brackets):-

General food shops82	(84)
Butcher's shops17	(17)
Fish shops (inc.fried fish & chip shops) 4	(4)
Fish stalls 3	(2)
Restaurants, cafes, etcll	(11)
Bakeries 4	(4)
Public Houses58	(59)
Poultry processing premises	(5)
Others (flour mills, factory canteens, etc.). 3	

Premises used for the preparation or serving of school meals, and kitchens of old persons' homes are also excluded from this list, as they are controlled and supervised by members of the County Public Health staff.

As stated earlier in the report, although we had considerable staff problems it was possible to slightly increase the number of inspections of food premises to 320 during the year, a figure that I am not yet satisfied is good enough to efficiently cover the number of premises in the District. Regular and frequent visits to these premises are essential to maintain high standards of hygiene both in premises and personal habits. Even so, it can be said that in general the standards now are reasonably good compared with those of a few years ago, and this may be due, to some extent at least, to the attitude of the general public who now appear to demand cleaner and better food shops etc. by discrimination. In the course of our inspections only one case arose where I considered it necessary to make a special report to the Committee; this concerned bakery premises where several informal letters in the past had failed to maintain the premises in a good clean condition. However, it was decided to give the occupier a final chance by a strong letter of warning, which seems to have had the desired effect, as subsequent visits have so far found the premises to be properly maintained and conducted. 9 other cases, it was found necessary to write informal letters drawing attention to minor infringements of the Regulations, which were rectified as a result.

The new Regulations requiring improved hygiene conditions on stalls, food vehicles etc. came into force on January 1st 1967, and every opportunity has been taken to bring their requirements to the operators' attention and advice given, but it must be said that not all vehicles encountered fully complied by the end of the year. This particularly applies to vehicles not having the name and address of the owner legibly inscribed thereon. In this respect too, I would mention the rather too frequent use of private cars for food delivery and transport, which although not forbidden by law is a practice to be deplored and is discouraged at every opportunity.

26 inspections were carried out at the 5 poultry processing premises operating in the District and no serious causes for complaint These plants vary considerably in size and throughput, and it is estimated that between them they handle something in the region of 3 million birds per annum - mostly broilers, but some hens and capons. Besides the known premises operating all the year, there are a number of farms which rear turkeys, geese, ducks and chickens which are dressed in outbuildings and other odd premises for sale just before Christmas, over which it is almost impossible to exercise any form of control - unless, of course, this practice is subsequently prohibited by legislation. From the number of our visits, it is apparent that so far it has not been possible to instigate any form of poultry inspection service, other than to advise operators on how to judge a healthy or unfit bird, and what action to take. To this end, your two additional Inspectors have attended three-day Poultry Inspection Courses arranged by the West Suffolk Education Authority, which have proved exceedingly instructive and helpful. From information supplied by the largest of our poultry processing factories (at Harleston) about one per cent of all birds entering the premises have to be rejected for disease or other reason rendering them unfit or unsuitable for human consumption.

# (d) Retail Distribution of Milk.

Once again there were no changes in the number of persons registered as retail distributors of milk in the District - the same 18, plus 3 producer-retailers continued to operate. All of these, and those operating from outside the District, were kept under routine observation and apart from one case where the vehicle

was not inscribed with the distributor's name and address, no contraventions of the Regulations were encountered.

### (e) Ice-cream.

Four additional premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream, bringing the total to 68 at the end of the year; only one of these is also registered for making ice-cream. Routine inspections of the shops etc. concerned have shown that this commodity is stored and sold under satisfactory conditions and no contraventions of the relevant Regulations were found.

13 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination and all reported as  ${\tt Grade}\ {\tt I}$  - excellent.

### PART V - PUBLIC CLEANSING

### (a) Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

There were no major changes in the operation of this service during the year, a fortnightly collection being continued in all parishes except Harleston, where it is weekly. The Working Party Report on refuse collection throughout the country - upon which I reported in detail to the June meeting of the Public Health Committee - tends to criticise our collection methods on two counts, firstly the frequency of collection which it is said should be at least weekly, and secondly our skep method of collection, which should be replaced by the paper sack system or continental dustless loading. Complaints are now being received more frequently - particularly from new residents that a fortnightly collection is not adequate or hygienic, and undoubtedly the cost of additional transport and manpower to change to a weekly collection, at least for all built-up areas, will have to be faced sooner or later. In December arrangements were approved for an experimental pilot scheme of paper sack refuse storage, but owing to subsequent financial restrictions, the scheme was later shelved for the time being.

To comply with another recommendation of the Working Party Report, in November it was agreed to include in the refuse collection service a scheme whereby bulky articles of refuse, such as unwanted furniture etc., should be collected free of charge upon request. Up to the end of the year, this did not impose any undue additional burden upon the service and if this experience continues, it should go a long way to preventing the indiscriminate dumping of such refuse in the countryside, which unfortunately has happened in the past.

There were two changes in refuse collection staff during the year; in May E.Wilby (who had completed nearly 20 years service with the Council) was retired on medical grounds and replaced by G.Bryanton, who had previously been employed on this work. And in September W.Knights, who had only been employed since December 1966, left of his own accord, and was replaced by E.R.Alexander.

During the year the total number of days lost through sickness etc. by the 13 workmen (including the tractor driver and the two men on the cesspool emptier) was only 83 - compared with 134½ the previous year - and represents less than 3% of the total possible working days. This I consider a very creditable record for the type of work concerned, and I should again like to place on record my appreciation of the continued good work done by the men on this service.

The same three Karrier collection vehicles (two 18 cu.yard dual-tippers and the 7 cu.yard side-loader) continued in service, and generally speaking gave satisfactory service.

Refuse continued to be disposed of by controlled tipping mainly at Weybread and Forncett; the tip we had used for a number of years at Manor Farm, Hempnall became full in October and tipping there had to stop. Efforts to find an alternative site in the North East area of the District had not been successful by the end of the year, although negotiations about a site at the old Hardwick airfield were still in progress. The tip at Weybread is already full in the strict sence of the word, but tipping has had to be continued there until a suitable alternative site in that area can be found. Various other small pits and depressions throughout the District have been made available by the owners - to our mutual advantage, and I am grateful for their use, but it is obvious that this hand-to-mouth disposal situation cannot go on much longer. We collect about 80 tons of refuse per week, which is no small amount to get rid of without a satisfactory means and sites for disposal.

The tips in use are levelled and covered by the tractor, and, I consider, maintained reasonably well for the equipment and manpower available. However, we did have a rather serious fire at Forncett during the summer, which required the services of a bull-dozer before it was eventually subdued several days later. All tips are visited regularly and treated as necessary by the ratcatcher, and spraying for flies etc. carried out as required.

In May I commenced talks with a number of officers from other District Councils centred on Norwich, regarding the possibility of establishing one or more refuse incineration or treatment plants to be used jointly, but although talks are still taking place it seems that there are so many considerations involved that it could be a very long time before such a scheme got under way.

### (b) Emptying of Earth-closet Pails.

The existing arrangements whereby earth closet pail contents are collected weekly from dwellings in the built-up parts of the parishes of Harleston, Wortwell, Alburgh, Brockdish, Starston and the Pulhams, continued throughout 1967. The amount of work in the Pulhams and Harleston is now almost negligible, being mainly confined to 'condemned' properties still occupied.

The two men engaged on the cesspool emptier now do this work without additional assistance on Mondays and Fridays, starting as early in the morning as possible, according to the time of the year.

The pail contents have continued to be disposed of by composting in 'straw pans' on the old airfield at Thorpe Abbotts and no difficulties have arisen in this respect.

# (c) Emptying of Septic Tanks etc.

The following table is a summary of the work carried out by the Dennis 800 gallon cesspool emptier (in addition to that mentioned in the previous section):-

or roads
ollected
230
162
646
41
1079

The number of loads collected is again down on the previous year (by 176) due to two main reasons; firstly now that this vehicle and the two men undertake all the E.C. pail emptying, only three days per week are available for cesspool emptying, but this adequately meets the need; and secondly, during the year Mr. Berrett made his own arrangements for lime sludge transport and obviated the need of our vehicle, which previously could transport a high number of loads per day on this work as opposed to ordinary cesspool emptying work. Both Mr.Berrett and I welcomed this change as other considerations apart, we had never been very happy about this vehicle at the waterworks - for obvious public health reasons.

Cesspool emptier contents have continued to be disposed of on suitable arable land - thanks to the co-operation and assistance of most farmers in the District - and I am thankful to be able to report that no difficulties or complaints arose. However, the day may come when this practice will be considered wrong and other suitable arrangements will have to be made.

# PART VI - R O D E N T C O N T R O L

A summary of the work carried out by the rat-catcher, J.H.Bartram, on the control of rats and mice is shown in the following table:-

-	Council premises (Tips,S/Wks etc.	Private dwellings .(inc.CHs)		premise	Total
No. of notifications of infestations received.	4	188	28	28	248
No. of survey visits as a matter of routine.	14	1682	85	80	1861
No. of treatments carried out at infested premises:- (a) Rats(i) major (ii) minor (b) Mice(i) major (ii) minor	7 68 - 2	1 834 - 14	1 25 - 3	- 26 - 6	9 953 <b>-</b> 25
No. of dead bodies picked up: Rats Mice	721 5	1294 55	403 35	107 19	2525 114

After the 1966/7 winter - one of the worst for rats for many years - our experience was that rat infestations resumed more or less average proportions and in fact, taking the year as a whole I think it fair to say that the number of rats encountered was less than normal. Although the number of rat complaints was down on the previous year (by 26) we carried out a higher number of treatments, but the number of dead bodies picked up after treatment was considerably reduced. This I consider is due to the fact that the public is now more rat conscious, and notifications are received at the first sign of infestation rather than when things become serious, and it seems that previous publicity is beginning to pay off.

Once again, I am pleased to be able to report that test baiting of all the Council's sewerage systems, gave negative results.

In addition to his normal work on rat and mice control, Mr.Bartram, also treated 12 premises for moles, 3 Council sites for rabbits, 2 dwellings for fleas, 1 for flies, and destroyed 31 wasps nests.

# PART VII - PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT

### (a) Factories Act 1961.

The following table shows the number of factories in use in the District at the end of the year, the number of inspections made and action taken as a result thereof:-

		Number of				
Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	1	Occupiers prosecuted		
(i) Factories in which Secs.1,2,3,4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities. (No power used).	6	18	1	-		
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Power used).	86	63	7	- 		
(iii) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding outworkers' premises).	5*	5	-			
Totals	97	86	8	-		

<sup>\*</sup> NOTE: These are the 5 slaughterhouses which are visited and inspected regularly throughout the year.

The number of premises shows an increase of 5 from the previous year. The number of inspections is down by 17, which can only be attributed to staffing difficulties.

All the 8 written notices (informal letters) were in respect of the provision or improvement to existing toilet accommodation for employees and no further action was found to be necessary before the requirements of the letters were complied with.

125 inspections were also made at sites of building or engineering operations regarding the provision of temporary toilet accommodation for workmen; in two cases only was it found necessary to write to the contractor concerned to ensure the provision of satisfactory chemical or earth closets.

Outworkers notified numbered 51 - all engaged in the making of wearing apparel (mostly sheepskin gloves), 35 visits were made to the homes of these persons and conditions under which the work was carried out were found to be satisfactory in every case.

### (b) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

10 new notifications of premises within the scope of this Act were received and the numbers of the various categories of premises, with the numbers of persons employed there, at the end of the year was as follows:-

Type of Premises	Number Registered.	Total No. of Employees.	
Offices	54 2 8	81 195 9 39 8	
	81	332 (191 females &	141 males).

It should be noted that some premises come into more than one category, so that the number of actual premises is, in fact, slightly less than the total of 81.

98 inspections were made during the year (10 fewer than in 1966) as a result of which 7 informal letters were sent drawing attention to minor infringements of the Act. All were rectified without the need for further action.

No accidents in these premises were notified.

### (c) Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act 1956.

Every opportunity continues to be taken to check that satisfactory toilet facilities are provided at agricultural premises for farm employees. 30 such visits were made and only in one case was it found that no such accommodation was provided, but an informal letter produced the desired result.

Checks are also made where it is found that a number of casual workers are employed on fruit picking and similar operations; here again only one instance arose where no temporary accommodation was provided and this was quickly remedied following informal written request.

### PART VIII - OTHER MATTERS.

# (a) Public Health Nuisances etc.

Complaints of public health nuisances etc. necessitated a total of 448 inspections (181 primary and 267 re-visits) - just over 100 more than in 1966.

Not all primary inspections call for any action, and a number can be dealt with verbally and personally on the spot, but in 30 cases informal letters had to be sent requesting work to abate nuisances, and in all but two this brought about the desired result. In the other two cases, both concerned with the keeping of pigs, abatement notices were served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act 1936, and conditions improved sufficiently so that further court action was unnecessary.

# (b) Earth Closet Conversion Grants.

Due to the added advantage of Housing Improvement Grants, applications for these grants continued to decline. In 1967 only 17 applications were received and approved - 5 of these were in respect of village halls etc. where in each case two toilets were to be converted. 15 grants were approved for payment to a total value of £320.10s.0d. - average grant £21.7s.0d.(£3 up on the average grant in 1966).

# (c) Miscellaneous Licences, etc.

Licences issued by the Department during the year were as follows, with the figures for 1966 in brackets:-

Petroleum Storage	104	(106)
Animal Boarding Establishments		
Game Dealers'	10	(11)
Scrap Metal Dealers' (registration)	11	(11)

Premises licensed under the first two headings were visited and kept under observation throughout the year, and no contraventions of the licensing conditions encountered.

# (d) Town Planning and Building Control.

971 applications for the approval of plans were received, of which 613 also required consideration under the Town and Country Planning Acts. This is an increase of 48 over the previous year. The appointment of the Building Inspector in July went a long way to overcoming the difficulties arising from the application of the new Building Regulations, although even now problems of their interpretation and administration continue to arise.

IN CONCLUSION, I would refer briefly to the departure of Dr.D.F.Hadman, who resigned his position as Medical Officer to take up private practice at the end of the year. I had always enjoyed most cordial relations with Dr.Hadman, whose co-operation and assistance were so readily forthcoming when requested; I would wish him every success with his new venture.

May I also express to Council members my thanks and appreciation of their continued support, and to all other members of the Council staff for their assistance and co-operation, in what was generally a rather difficult working year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Senior Public Health Inspector and Building Inspector.

June, 1968.

# DEPWADE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

### ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S

### ANNUAL REPORT

### FOR 1967

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year ended 31st December, 1967.

The year was another where the growth and expansion of our work continued and despite the fact that, as ever, staff vacancies loomed large on the scene, considerable achievements were made. Over £176,000 was expended on capital works by this Department alone (a very high figure, all things considered) and your Consultants, too, dealt with a large number of schemes and contracts. Private development continued at a high rate, and although the population figures do not reflect a picture of rapid change, it is apparent that the general nature of the District and, consequently, the work done under your direction, is changing all the time.

In this connection it might be remarked that - particularly in small Authorities - it is very difficult accurately to predict the timing and the extent of changes and the consequence is that the provision of facilities such as electricity supply, water supply, severage, and so on - not to mention the provision of shops, schools, and other amenities - tends to lag behind development. It has to be borne in mind that in small villages such as ours, where the population perhaps averages little over 500, the sudden appearance of a small housing estate of, say, 40 dwellings can increase the population of the place by something like 20%. Small wonder, then, that a small village such as Wacton, with a population of well under 200, can suddenly find itself urgently in need of a proper sewerage system.

Again, I am grateful to the members of my staff, both indoor and outdoor, for their willingness, help, and co-operation as I am to those of other Departments and Members of the Council

### HOUSING

### (A) CAPITAL WORKS

# (1) House Improvements:

The programme continued during the year and it is pleasing to note that although by no means all the work has been completed, the end is in sight, and before very long all the pre-war houses will have been dealt with. At the same time it must be remembered that some of the schemes cannot be carried out until sewers are available and thus the finishing of the programme depends on the progress of some of the outstanding sewerage schemes.

# (2) New Dwellings:

The 1966 programme for the erection of 40 two-bedroomed bungalows on six sites was continued, as was the 1967 programme for 45 two-bedroomed bungalows, also on six sites. Since two of the sites were common to both programmes, there was a certain amount of overlapping and when the year ended, 40 had been completed, 8 were under construction, and tenders had been received for the remaining 37.

Progress continued on the Grouped Homes Scheme for the Elderly at Harleston and informal approvals had been received from the County Council and from the Ministry. The further preparation continues. It might be noted that during the year the Ministry revised and made considerably more complicated the procedure to be followed before building can start and a considerable amount of work had to be done in connection with current and future schemes.

During the year work was completed on sites at Brockdish, Tivetshall St. Margaret and Pulham St. Mary, where plots are to be sold to members of the public. A similar site at Ashwellthorpe was under construction.

### (B) MAINTENANCE

As will be seen from Appendix 2, once again the pattern followed the trend, though there was some increase in the vehicle mileage. This was partly brought about by the employment of a Works Superintendent but, bearing in mind the improvement in both efficiency and output, this is entirely to be expected and is quite reasonable. A further proportion of the additional mileage was in connection with the supervision of contract painters and it will be noticed that while the target figure of about 300 houses was not achieved, it was a much better total and has done much to improve the position regarding external painting.

### WATER SUPPLY

### (A) CAPITAL WORKS

The new waterworks was commissioned about half way through the year and it thus became possible to discontinue the bulk supply received from Diss. However, the exceptionally good summer forced the water consumption to a record level and for a short period both the new and the old works were working almost at full stretch. In addition it became plain that demand in the area fed from Harleston Tower was increasing rapidly and to such an extent that some difficulty was experienced in keeping Harleston Tower full. In this light you asked your Consultants to report on the need further to increase water supplies and to send more water to Harleston Tower.

The construction of two houses for waterworks staff was well advanced when the year finished.

Preparations for the replacement of the small steel water tower at Long Stratton by a reinforced concrete one of 200,000 gallons capacity continued during the year and when the year ended construction work was about to start.

The pace of building development - particularly in the private sector - seemed to go on increasing during the year and, as will be seen from Appendix 4, a considerable number of water main extensions had to be dealt with. All of those constructed were quite short and, while no great technical problems were involved, a considerable amount of time and effort had to be expended.

### (B) MAINTENANCE

The general pattern again was similar to the previous year and with the general growth of the undertaking you have prudently continued to increase the resources to meet the increasing demand for water and the consequent increase in maintenance work to be done.

With the commissioning of the new waterworks the strength was brought up to that which you authorised and, as has been mentioned earlier, the staff continued to do a very considerable amount of work in connection with the construction of the new works and subsequently in dealing with the various teething troubles experienced. The teething troubles had not been overcome when the year ended and consequently it cannot be said that it was possible to settle into the smooth routine hoped for.

On the distribution side the amount of work continued to increase and in addition considerable difficulty was caused when on a number of occasions consumers' meters blocked due to crystalline deposits. As forecast in my last annual report there was a growing need to increase the strength of the distribution team and this is expected to take place during 1968.

# SEWERAGE & SEVAGE DISPOSAL

### (A) CAPITAL WORKS

Construction work was started on schemes for Ashwellthorpe, Forncett, Harleston, Tasburgh and Wortwell but none was completed by the end of the year. The Brockdish and Scole schemes were still delayed although the Ministry carried out an Inquiry into the Brockdish scheme. The scheme for Roydon reached the tender stage and the Wacton and Aslacton scheme was in course of preparation. All of these schemes are in the hands of your Consultants.

My preparations for the enlargement of the Long Stratton Sewage Disposal Works continued and by the end of the year the scheme had been submitted to the Ministry.

A number of small sewer extensions were made, all in connection with development, although the two small extensions in Dickleburgh provided sewerage for a number of existing properties.

# (B) MAINTENANCE

To deal with the growing amount of maintenance work two additional attendants were taken on during the year and a new cesspool emptier was acquired. This machine deals only with the de-sludging of various of your sewage disposal works and, except in cases of emergency, is not used by the Public Health Department. With the increased strength and better facilities it was possible to effect some improvement in the standard of maintenance but this, of course, is constantly being offset by the construction of new and more complex works. It is anticipated, therefore, that the maintenance organisation will have to go on growing for some time to come and with the completion of a number of larger works in the near future, the growth will have to be fairly rapid.

### OTHER MATTERS

### (A) CAPITAL WORKS

The provision of the car park at Harleston was made during the year and the approach roads were completed, as was the surfacing of the eastern section of the park which is the section nearer to the shopping centre. This section, which has been properly marked out, will accommodate about 70 cars and appears increasingly to be used.

If the public lavatories are built there in 1968 a very useful stopping place for tourist traffic will be created on what, of course, is a main route between the Midlands and the East Anglian coastal resorts.

# (B) PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT

Despite the country's financial difficulties, there appears at least at the moment - to be no slackening in the increasing pace of development in these parts and, as will be seen from the Appendix, we had dealings with well over 20 private sites. The work involved is frequently considerable and often difficult, but I consider that, in the light of experience, and with both the County Council's and our insistence on high standards, the estates nowadays are generally better constructed. However, too often their appearance leaves something to be desired and it would be an achievement indeed to succeed in raising this standard.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

May, 1968

# STAFF CHANGES IN 1967

# ARRIVALS - OFFICERS:

3. 7. 67. MR. J. R. N. BAINBRIDGE ASSISTANT ENGINEER

1.12.67. MR. J. R. FOWLER JUNIOR ENGINEERING

ASSISTANT

### <u>DEPARTURES - OFFICERS:</u>

22. 8. 67. MR. G. W. GILDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

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# ARRIVALS - WORKMEN:

9. 1. 67	7. MR. C	. F. BOON	WATER ATTENDANT
10. 4. 67	7. MR. K	. S. DESBOROUGH	WORKS SUPERINTENDENT
1. 5. 67	7. MR. G	. C. ARCHER	LABOURER
15. 5. 67	7. MR. S	. L. DOBSON	ASSISTANT WATERWORKS SUPERINTENDENT
17. 7. 67	7. MR. G	. ADCOCK	WATER ATTENDANT
25. 9. 67	7. MR. C	. F. BOON	SEWAGE WORKS ATTENDANT
2.10. 67	7. MR. F	. BOON	SEWAGE WORKS ATTENDANT
16.10. 67	7. MR. F	. L. KELD	WATER ATTENDANT WATERWORKS
11.12. 67	7. MR. G	. ANDERSON	TEMPORARY SEWAGE WORKS ATTENDANT

# <u>DEPARTURES - WORKMEN:</u>

11. 3. 67.	MR. P. KING	HANDYMAN
14. 7. 67.	MR. C. F. BOON	WATER ATTENDANT

# SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY HOUSING REPAIRS SECTION IN 1967

No. of dwellings under repair at 31st December, 1967	1,556	(1,516)
Complaints received	2,620	(2,512)
Jobbing Repairs done	2,586	(2,543)
Electrical Complaints received and dealt with	282	(233)
*Dwellings painted externally	164	(163)
Dwellings completely or partially redecorated internally on change of tenancy	8	(8)
Routine inspections of Council Dwellings	67	(57)
Vehicle mileages JNG 378D 6,635		
2023 PW 7,795		
8342 PW 8,327		
726 DNG 9,110		
DNG 422C 7,278		
CCL 833D 5,143		
(6 months) MVF 280E <u>7,457</u>		
<u>51,745</u>	51,745	(40,416)

NOTE: The figures in parentheses are those for 1966.

<sup>\*</sup>In addition to the 164 dwellings mentioned above, 8 garages were also painted by the direct labour force; 34 dwellings were painted by Contractors working on improvements schemes and 58 dwellings were painted by direct contract, making a total of 256 dwellings and 8 garages painted during the year.

Average daily quantity of water supplied in thousands of gallons per day:

Fr	om		
Ru	sha	1	1
Di	gg		

Jan. 515 157	Feb. 509	Mar. 524 147	Apr. 651* 151	May 571* 125	June 770 Disc	July 825 ontinue	741	Sep. 740	0ct. 724	Nov. 715	Dec. 783	
672	660	671	802*	696 <b>*</b>	770	825	741	740	724	715	783	
(658)	(659)	(677)	(666)	(693)	(745)	(667)	(661)	(701)	(648)	(649)	(657)	
Quan	tity su	ıpp <b>lie</b> d	l in 19	967 fro	m Rusl	hall	• • • •	248,93	37 <b>,</b> 000	· (18	37,054,	,000)
				11	Dis	S	• • • •		18,000 35,000		56,919, 13,973,	
Incr	ease ir	1967	• • • • •			• • • • •		25,81	2,000	t (1	8,360,	,000)
Esti	mated I	Populat	t <b>io</b> n <b>i</b> n	Area o	of Supp	ply		1	18,250		(18,	,050)
Esti	nated I	Populat	tion su	upp <b>lie</b> d	l in 19	967		1	17,170		(16,	,900)
Esti	nated I	Percent	tage of	Popul	lation	serve	i		94		(9	93.6)
Aver	age Dai	ily cor	nsumpti	on per	r pers	on	• • • •		43 <b>*</b>	g.p.d.	. (3	39.5)
Leng	th of m	main ir	n servi	ce		• • • • • •	• • • •		209	miles	3 (	(208)
Const	umers N	leters.		• • • • •		• • • • •			1,282		(1,	,244)
Dwel	lings s	served.	• • • • • •	• • • • •		• • • • •	• • • •		6,450		(6,	,195)
				Direct		•••••			5,930		(5,	,655)
				By Sta	andpip	e	• • • •		520		(	(540)
Appl:	icatior	ns for	Suppli	es gra	inted.	• • • • •			132		(	(132)
New Tappings made									311		(	(219)
Mains fractures repaired									61			(37)
Serv	Service pipes repaired											(37)
Valve	es, hyd	lrants,	, stand	lpipes,	etc.	repair	red.		27			(15)

NOTE: The figures in parentheses are those for 1966.

<sup>\*</sup> These figures are to some extent inflated because some water was used in the commissioning of the new waterworks, rising main, etc.

# WATER MAINS LAID IN 1967.

Parish	Me	ce of ain La.)	Length of Main (Yds.)	Dwellings Supplied.
BROCKDISH off Church Lane (Site for Help to Would-be House				
Purchasers)	3"	A.C.	370	20
EARSHAM				
Dukesway (Housing Development)	3"	A.C.	154	8
HARLESTON Car Park (Link main) Paddock Road (Housing Site) Off Green Lane (for private Housing Development)			390 94 264 ) 230 )	- 12 49
LONG STRATTON Flowerpot Lane (Link main)		A.C.	310 10	- :
Flowerpot Lane (connection to private Housing Site)	4"	A.C.	10	
PULHAM ST. MARY Mill Lane (Help for Would-be House Purchasers)	3"	A.C.	150	10
SCOLE Off Reeve Close (Housing Development)	3"	A.C.	100	12
WACTON Hall Lane (Housing Development)	3"	A.C.	100	6

# FINANCIAL STATISTICS (as at 31st March, 1968)

(i)	Estimated Total Capital Expenditure	£875,700	(£834 <b>,</b> 500)
(ii)	Estimated Revenue Expenditure (inclusive of running costs, loan charges, etc.)	£77,000	(£67,000)
(iii)	Estimated Revenue	£31,200	(£31,500)

# CAPITAL SCHEMES DEALT WITH DURING 1967.

# 1. HOUSING

(a)

(	A	) Improvements

(	i	) B	У	this	De	par	tmer	it:

(a)	Denton - Trunch Hill (8)	Work completed
	" - Nr. King's Head and Norwich Road (10)	Contract placed

(b)	Tharston - Chequers Road, and Picton Road (19)	 Work completed
	(::) D	

# (ii) By Consultants:

and School Lane (22)

Ashwellthorpe, Common Road, Fundenhall (6)

(b)	Ashwellthorpe, The Street (18)	Tenders invited
(c)	Ashwellthorpe, The Turnpike, Fundenhall (14)	Work in progress
(d)	Brockdish, Bungay Road, (16)	Awaiting sewer- age scheme.
(e)	Bunwell, The Turnpike (8)	Work completed
(f)	Pulham St. Mary (25)	Work completed

Work completed

Work completed

d

(8)	Turnam Market, Coregate End (C)	WOLK IN blogless
(h)	Redenhall with Harleston, Javs Green	

(i)	Starston, Skinners Lane	Work completed

(j)	Tharston -	Norwich	Road	and	The	Street,	Documents
		Hapton					prepared.

(k)	Tibenham.	Long Row (10)	Work in progress
\/		-0116 100 (10)	MOTIF TIL DIOBIODI

(1) Wacton, Church Road (4)	Completed
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(m)	Winfarthing,	Goose Green (8)		Documents prepared
(n)	Winfarthing,	Hall Road and Nr. Chapel	(10)	Work completed

(o) Wortwell, High Road (18)	Work in progress
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# (B) New Dwellings (All by this Department):

# (i) 1966 Programme for 40 two-bedroomed bungalows at -

Dickleburgh (2)	Work completed
Burston (4)	Ditto
Earsham (8)	Ditto
Harleston (12)	Ditto
Scole (8)	Ditto
Wacton (6)	Work in progress (two completed)

(B) New Dwellings (continued) (ii) 1967 Programme for 45 two-bedroomed bungalows at -(4) Burston Work in progress (11)Long Stratton Tenders received Pulham Market (10)Ditto Pulham St. Mary (6) Ditto (4)Scole Work completed (10)Tacolneston Tenders received (iii) Grouped Homes for the Elderly at Harleston Documents in (20 one-bedroomed and 2 two-bedroomed course of bungalows) preparation. (C) Site Works for Help to Would-be House Purchasers (i) Ashwellthorpe Work in progress (ii) Brockdish Work completed (iii) Pulham St. Mary Ditto (iv) Tivetshall St. Margaret Ditto (D) Housing Site Sewage Works Bressingham, Fersfield - replacement Work completed sewage disposal works 2. WATER SUPPLY (A) By Consultants: Rushall Second Waterworks (i) Work completed (ii) Rushall to Burston Rising Main Ditto (iii) Long Stratton - New Water Tower Work about to start (iv) Rushall - Two houses for staff Work in progress (B) By this Department - Water Main Extensions: (i) Harleston - Green Lane (Private Development) Work completed (ii) Long Stratton - Flowerpot Lane (Link Main) Ditto (for Private (iii) Housing Development) Ditto (iv) Scole - Reeve Close Ditto 3. SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL (A) By Consultants:

(i) Ashwellthorpe - Village Sewerage Scheme Work in progress

(ii) Brockdish - Ditto Awaiting Ministry approval

# Sewerage & Sewage Disposal By Consultants (continued)

(iii)	Forncett and Tacolneston - Village Sewerage Scheme	work in progress
(iv)	Harleston - reconstruction of sewage disposal works	Ditto
(v)	Roydon - Village Sewerage Scheme	Tenders about to be invited
(vi)	Scole - enlargement of existing sewage disposal works	Awaiting purchase of land and Minis approval
(vii)	Tasburgh & Hapton - Village Sewerage Scheme	Work in progress
(viii)	Wacton & Aslacton - Ditto	Scheme in preparation
(ix)	Wortwell - Ditto	Work in progress
(B)	By this Department:	
(i)	Dickleburgh - sewer extensions in Burston Road and Harvey Lane	Work completed
(ii)	Long Stratton - enlargement of existing Sewage Disposal Works	Scheme in course of preparation
(iii)	Long Stratton - Flowerpot Lane - new sewer for private development site	Work completed
(iv)	Scole, Reeve Close - sewer extension	Work completed

try

# 4. OTHER MATTERS

# (A) Private Development

The following have all received attention and assistance from this Department:-

- (i) Ashwellthorpe Lansdale & Falconbridge (two sites)
- (ii) Ashwellthorpe A. & J. Sissen
- (iii) Aslacton, Sneath Road
- (iv) Earsham A. Hood & Sons
- (v) Forncett End E. A. Burrell
- (vi) Forncett & Tacolneston Tornest Development (two sites)
- (vii) Great Moulton E. W. Heather
- (viii) Hempnall Off Field Lane Wilhunt Properties Ltd.
- (ix) Long Stratton Flowerpot Lane Mickleburgh & Rutland
- (x) Long Stratton Flowerpot Lane Greenpark Housing

# Private Development (Continued)

- (xi) Long Stratton Swan Lane D. R. Burrell
- (xii) Long Stratton Hall Lane Mickleburgh & Rutland
- (xiii) Long Stratton The Street R. Bunn
- (xiv) Long Stratton Ipswich Road W. Tubby
- (xv) Redenhall with Harleston Pound Close Blackburns (Harleston) Ltd.
- (xvi) Redenhall with Harleston Shotford Road Blackburns (Harleston) Ltd.
- (xvii) Redenhall with Harleston Parklands Estate T.Gill & Sons (Norwich) Ltd.
- (xviii) Roydon, Manor Road Mills & Leighton
- (xix) Scole off Bungay Road L. H. Hill
- (xx) Tasburgh Church Road Reynolds & Halliday
- (xxi) Tasburgh E. A. Burrell & Son
- (xxii) Tasburgh Tas Valley Estate Tarrid Builders Ltd.
- (xxiii) Wortwell Willow Close Blackburns (Harleston) Ltd.

# (B) By this Department:

Harleston Car Park & Access Roads

Harleston Car Park - Public Conveniences

Work completed

Scheme and
Estimates prepared - deferred.



